CLAIMS

What is claimed:

1. A semiconductor substrate processing apparatus comprising:

a frame;

a semiconductor substrate support to support a semiconductor substrate,

the semiconductor substrate having a central axis;

a dispense head connected to the frame to dispense a semiconductor

processing fluid onto the semiconductor substrate; and

a catch cup section attached to the frame having an inner surface and an

outer surface, at least a portion of the inner surface not facing towards the central

axis of the semiconductor substrate.

2. The semiconductor substrate processing apparatus of claim 1, wherein a

line normal to and extending only away from the portion of the inner surface

does not intersect the central axis of the semiconductor substrate.

3. The semiconductor substrate processing apparatus of claim 2, wherein the

catch cup further comprises a lip extending from the inner surface thereof

towards the central axis of the semiconductor substrate.

4. The semiconductor substrate processing apparatus of claim 3, wherein the

lip further comprises an upper surface and a lower surface, at least a portion of

the upper surface of the lip facing away from the central axis of the

semiconductor substrate

5. The semiconductor substrate processing apparatus of claim 4, wherein a

line normal to and extending only away from the portion of the upper surface of

the lip does not intersect the central axis of the semiconductor substrate.

6. The semiconductor substrate processing apparatus of claim 5, wherein at

least a portion of the lower surface of the lip faces away from the central axis of

the semiconductor substrate.

7. The semiconductor substrate processing apparatus of claim 6, wherein a

line normal to and extending only away from the portion of the lower surface of

the lip does not intersect the central axis of the semiconductor substrate.

8. The semiconductor substrate processing apparatus of claim 7, wherein the

18

catch cup further comprises at least two drain openings and a passageway

therethrough interconnecting the at least two drain openings.

first of the drain openings is on the inner surface of the catch cup above the lip and a second of the drain opening is on the inner surface of the catch cup below

The semiconductor substrate processing apparatus of claim 8, wherein a

the lip such that a liquid on the upper surface of the lip flows into the first drain

opening, through the passageway, and out of the second opening.

10. The semiconductor substrate processing apparatus of claim 9, wherein an

upper surface of the semiconductor substrate is in a plane, an inner portion of the

upper surface of the lip being a first height above the plane, an outer portion of

the upper surface of the lip being a second height above the plane, the first

height being greater than the second height.

11. The semiconductor substrate processing apparatus of claim 10, wherein

the semiconductor substrate is a wafer.

12. A semiconductor substrate processing apparatus comprising:

a frame;

9.

a semiconductor substrate support to support a semiconductor substrate,

the semiconductor substrate having a central axis;

a dispense head connected to the frame to dispense a semiconductor

processing fluid onto the semiconductor substrate; and

a catch cup section attached to the frame around the semiconductor

substrate support and having an upper surface, substantially all of the upper

surface either facing towards or away from the central axis of the semiconductor

substrate.

13. The semiconductor substrate processing apparatus of claim 12, wherein

the semiconductor substrate has a surface in a plane.

14. The semiconductor substrate processing apparatus of claim 13, wherein

substantially all of the catch cup section is below the plane.

15. The semiconductor substrate processing apparatus of claim 14, wherein

substantially no portion of the upper surface of the catch cup is parallel to the

plane.

16. The semiconductor substrate processing apparatus of claim 15, wherein

the catch cup section further comprises a peak formation extending upwards

from the upper surface thereof, the peak formation dividing the upper surface

into inner and outer portions, the inner portion of the upper surface facing

towards the central axis of the semiconductor substrate, the outer portion of the

upper surface facing away from the central axis of the semiconductor substrate.

Patent Application

- 17. The semiconductor substrate processing apparatus of claim 16, wherein a line normal to and extending only away from the inner portion of the upper surface of the catch cup intersects the central axis of the semiconductor substrate and a line normal to and extending only away from the outer portion of the upper surface of the catch cup does not intersect the central axis of the semiconductor substrate.
- 18. The semiconductor substrate processing apparatus of claim 17, wherein the semiconductor substrate has an outer edge and a peak of the peak formation is substantially directly below the outer edge of the semiconductor substrate.
- 19. The semiconductor substrate processing apparatus of claim 18, wherein the catch cup section further comprises at least two drain openings and a passageway therethrough interconnecting the drain openings.
- 20. The semiconductor substrate processing apparatus of claim 19, wherein a first of the drain openings is on the inner portion of the upper surface of the catch cup section and a second of the drain openings is on the outer portion of the upper surface of the catch cup section such that a liquid on the inner portion of the upper surface of the catch cup section flows into the first drain opening, through the passageway, and out of the second drain opening.

21. A semiconductor substrate processing apparatus comprising:

a frame;

a semiconductor substrate support to support a semiconductor substrate,

the semiconductor substrate having a central axis;

a dispense head connected to the frame to dispense a semiconductor

processing fluid onto the semiconductor substrate; and

a catch cup having a mid-section and a top section, the mid-section being

attached to the frame around the semiconductor substrate support and having a

top surface, substantially all of the top surface either facing towards or away

from the central axis of the semiconductor substrate, the top section being

attached to the frame around the mid-section and having an inner surface and an

outer surface, at least a portion of the inner surface facing away from the central

axis of the semiconductor substrate.

22. The semiconductor substrate processing apparatus of claim 21, wherein

the semiconductor substrate has a surface in a plane.

23. The semiconductor substrate processing apparatus of claim 22, wherein

substantially no portion of the top surface of the mid-section of the catch cup is

22

parallel to the plane.

Patent Application

Express Mail No.: EV 409 362 665 US

Attorney Docket: 6601.P041

24. The semiconductor substrate processing apparatus of claim 23, wherein a

line normal and extending only away from the portion of the inner surface of the

top section does not intersect the central axis of the semiconductor substrate.

25. The semiconductor substrate processing apparatus of claim 24, wherein

the top section of the catch cup further comprises a lip extending from the inner

surface thereof towards the central axis of the semiconductor substrate.

26. The semiconductor substrate processing apparatus of claim 25, wherein

the mid-section of the catch cup further comprises a peak formation extending

upwards from the top surface thereof, the peak formation dividing the top

surface into inner and outer portions.

27. The semiconductor substrate processing apparatus of claim 26, wherein

the lip of the top section of the catch cup further comprises an upper surface and

a lower surface, at least a portion of the upper surface of the lip facing away from

the central axis of the semiconductor substrate.

28. The semiconductor substrate processing apparatus of claim 27, wherein

the inner portion of the top surface of the mid-section faces towards the central

axis of the semiconductor substrate and the outer portion of the top surface of

the mid-section faces away from the central axis of the semiconductor substrate.

Patent Application Express Mail No.: EV 409 362 665 US 23 Attorney Docket: 6601.P041

29. The semiconductor substrate processing apparatus of claim 28, wherein a line normal and extending only away from the upper surface of the lip does not intersect the central axis of the semiconductor substrate.

30. The semiconductor substrate processing apparatus of claim 29, wherein a line normal to and extending only away from the inner portion of the top surface of the mid-section of the catch cup intersects the central axis of the semiconductor substrate and a line normal to and extending only away from the outer portion of the top surface of the mid-section of the catch cup does not intersect the central axis of the semiconductor substrate.

- 31. The semiconductor substrate processing apparatus of claim 30, wherein at least a portion of the lower surface of the lip of the top section of the catch cup faces away from the central axis of the semiconductor substrate.
- 32. The semiconductor substrate processing apparatus of claim 31, wherein a line normal to and extending only away from the lower surface of the lip of the top section of the catch cup does not intersect the central axis of the semiconductor substrate.

33. The semiconductor substrate processing apparatus of claim 32, wherein the semiconductor substrate has an outer edge and a peak of the peak formation is substantially directly below the outer edge of the semiconductor substrate.

34. The semiconductor substrate processing apparatus of claim 33, wherein the mid-section of the catch cup further comprises first and second mid-drain openings and a mid-passageway therethrough interconnecting the first and second mid-drain openings.

35. The semiconductor substrate processing apparatus of claim 34, wherein the top section of the catch cup further comprises first and second top-drain openings and a top-passageway therethrough interconnecting the first and second top-drain openings.

36. The semiconductor substrate processing apparatus of claim 35, wherein the first mid-drain opening is on the inner portion of the top surface of the mid-section of the catch cup and the second mid-drain opening is on the outer portion of the top surface of the mid-section of the catch cup such that a liquid on the inner portion of the top surface of the mid-section of the catch cup flows into the first mid-drain opening, through the mid-passageway, and out of the second mid-drain opening.

37. The semiconductor substrate processing apparatus of claim 36, wherein the first top-drain opening is on the inner surface of the top section of the catch cup above the lip and the second top-drain opening is on the inner surface of the top section of the catch cup below the lip such that a liquid on the upper surface of the lip flows into the first top-drain opening, through the top-passageway, and out of the second opening.